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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : S. POTHAPRAGADA, et al.

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Examiner : Unknown

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Title : INTELLIGENT VIRTUAL VOLUME ACCESS

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the replacement specification as follows:

In the specification:

Insert the following drawing descriptions at the end of the paragraph ending on page 4, line number 30:

FIG. 17 is a block diagram illustrating the typical storage stack in a controller/server or a client.

FIGs. 18 and 19 are block diagrams illustrating the disk and the tape drivers providing access to physical data.

FIG. 20 is a block diagram illustrating two servers that are connected on a LAN/WAN.

FIG. 21 is a block diagram illustrating a framework in which the Virtual Volume Management Protocol may operate.

FIG. 22 is a diagram illustrating the Virtual Volume Management Protocol.

FIG. 23 is a block diagram illustrating a data path management example.

FIG. 24 is a block diagram illustrating an instance of SAN/WAN interoperability using VVMP.

FIG. 25 is a block diagram illustrating a generic computing subsystem that supports both SAN and NAS.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

May 6, 2002
Date of Deposit

Sally Zumba